

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 246

By Cooper B

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize A. Schwab's Dry Goods Store in Memphis, Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should recognize those outstanding businesses that provide invaluable services to their respective communities while also maintaining the highest level of customer service; and

WHEREAS, one such exemplary emporium is A. Schwab's Dry Goods Store; the oldest surviving family-owned and operated general store in Memphis and the Mid-South, it has been in continual operation since its establishment in 1876 by Abraham Joseph Schwab; and

WHEREAS, distinguished by battered wood floors, A. Schwab's Dry Goods Store is one of Memphis's top tourist attractions, offering a fascinating array of goods, including plumbing supplies, size-74 men's overalls, forty-four varieties of suspenders, a kiosk full of Elvis souvenirs, 99¢ neckties, praying hands, corncob pipes, and Sunday School badges to name only a few; and

WHEREAS, A. Schwab Dry Goods Store's selection also includes such accoutrements as lucky roots in fragrant oil, familiar from the blues songs "Mojo Hands" and "High Hon the Conqueror," and a wide-variety of "love potions"; and

WHEREAS, a general store in the purest sense of the word, this extraordinary institution is also home to the Beale Street Museum, which is located on a small balcony between the first and second floors of the dry goods store; the museum offers a collection of Beale Street memorabilia along with several relics and records tracing the history of the Schwab family; and

WHEREAS, currently operated by Elliot Schwab, Sam Braslow, and Marvin Braslow, A. Schwab's is a unique dry goods store, reminding the visitor of an era when the traditional

general store was a familiar and welcoming icon in the landscape of Tennessee, and this outstanding Memphis institution should be specially recognized; and

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and commend the fine folks of A. Schwab's Dry Goods Store upon the store's many successful years in business, express our appreciation for the store's distinct personality in the Memphis community, and wish its dedicated owners every success in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.